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The Political Thought of Plato and Aristotle. By E. BARKER.
New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons; London: Methuen & Co., 1906. Pp. ix + 559.

This is an excellent, though in no sense epoch-making, book. Begun seven years before publication as an introduction to Aristotle's *Politics* it gradually grew into what is virtually a history of Greek political thought to the death of Aristotle, with a brief epilogue on the subsequent influence of the *Politics* and of Plato's *Republic*. Mr. Barker displays throughout sanity, a sense of proportion, and a sufficient but not excessive interest in speculative political philosophy and modern analogies. He has evidently studied his texts with care and made good use of such German authorities as Wilamowitz, Henkel, Hildenbrand, Gomperz, Oncken, Eucken, Pöhlman, and Dümmler without committing himself to their more adventurous hypotheses. Nohle's illuminating but neglected essay on the political ideas of Plato he seems to have overlooked.

Noting merely that the treatment of Plato is intelligent and sympathetic, I will confine further comment to the larger portion of the volume (pp. 208-496) which deals with Aristotle.

Mr. Barker modestly styles these chapters *τεμάχῃ* from the great banquet of Newman; but if less voluminous he is more luminous than his master. A comprehensive chapter on "Aristotle's Life, Times, and Writings," prepares us for a résumé of his political thought which follows the order of ideas rather than the accidental arrangement of the books of the *Politics* as now edited. This interesting chapter is largely a summary of the best things in Wilamowitz, Eucken, and Shute. The *Politics* are, with the possible exception of the two books on the ideal state where the style is more finished, a professor's notes for three separate courses of lectures comprising: (1) the prolegomena of politics, the general theory of the state and household, and data for the construction of an ideal state; (2) a sketch of an ideal state incomplete in respect of the higher education and of many details of legislation; (3) a treatise on positive politics or study of actual states, their classification, development, and the policies most suitable to each type. These lecture notes preserved in the Peripatetic school and the Alexandrian library were put together from the private copy of Theophrastus and given to the world as a continuous treatise on politics by the Roman editors to whom Sulla intrusted the literary spoils of his Grecian campaigns.

After these and other preliminaries Mr. Barker proceeds to expand the substance of Aristotle's thought under the headings: the teleological view of the state; the state as a compound; Aristotle's conceptions of law and justice; the ideal state and its scheme of education; actual states and the lines of their reform. It is impossible to summarize his discussion. It rarely invites hostile criticism either in matters of detailed interpreta-

tion into which he does not often enter, or in larger questions where he is generally right. A captious critic might ask whether *φιλαυτία* is ever used in the good sense of "self-respect;" and might point out that though Aristotle's debt to Plato, and especially to the too-much-neglected *Laus* is explicitly acknowledged, the general method of Mr. Barker's exposition remains that of the usual Aristotelian who invariably exaggerates his author's originality and employs all the arts of interpretation to minimize his self-contradictions instead of accepting his inconsistencies as the inevitable result of his unsuccessful attempts to emancipate himself in appearance from the Platonism that was bred in the bone. It would be pleasant to quote some of Mr. Barker's many apt and pregnant statements of the essential analogies and differences to be noted in a comparison of ancient and modern political life and theory. But there is space only to recommend his volume to the general student of ancient life and particularly to all authors of textbooks of the *History of Political Theories*.

PAUL SHOREY

Decimus Junius Brutus Albinus. A Historical Study. By BERNARD CAMILLUS BONDURANT. Chicago dissertation. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1907. Pp. 113. \$0.75.

This dissertation, written under the direction of Professor Abbott gives in detail the life, character and influence of Decimus Brutus, establishing the various facts by full citation of authorities. The work has been carefully done and the results arrived at are, in general, sound. Misprints are rare, press work and paper excellent. The introduction includes a summary of contents, a table of dates of important events connected with the life of Brutus after the death of Caesar, and a selected bibliography. The dissertation itself is divided into three chapters: I, "The Career of Decimus Brutus to the Year 45 B. c.;" II, "Decimus' Part in the Assassination of Caesar;" III, "Decimus' Administration of Cisalpine Gaul and the War with Antonius." In the first chapter the tracing of the ancestry of Brutus is interesting, but not conclusive; the defense of Sempronia (pp. 22), mother of Brutus, against the charges of Sallust is hopeless and opposed to Bondurant's excellent handling of sources in the major portion of his work; on p. 23 the adoption of Brutus and his name Albinus are correctly explained, but I miss the reference to Eckhel, Vol. V, p. 187, where a fuller proof of this position appears. By far the best portion of the chapter is the description of the career of Brutus under Caesar in Gaul. Particularly happy is the treatment (p. 26) of the sources for the naval battle against the Veneti. The second chapter is, in the main, less satisfactory owing to the rather labored defense of Decimus Brutus. In this portion Bondurant often appears a eulogist